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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: **McBrearty et al.**

Serial No.: **09/864,109**

Filed: **May 24, 2001**

For: **Automatically Generated
Symbol-Based Debug Script
Executable by a Debug Program for
Software Debugging**

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Group Art Unit: **2193**

Examiner: **Ingberg, Todd D.**

Attorney Docket No.: **AUS920000939US1**

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

In response to the Notice of Allowance dated June 16, 2005, please consider the following comments on the reasons for allowance:

REMARKS

I. Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Regarding the allowability of the claims, the examiner states that:

The independent claims contain the ability to set compiler options which result in producing files that are used to build a test script. Although, the Examiner located references for generating test scripts the prior art of record failed to perform in the same steps as the claimed invention. The log files stored in a computer readable medium are the results of the compiling with options set. Prior art of record is silence to these limitations in combination of build a test script.

Notice of Allowability, June 16, 2005, p. 2.

II. Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The examiner's characterization of the claims is incorrect. Claim 1, which is representative of the independent claims, is as follows:

1. A method of debugging a software program whose execution flow is responsive at least in part to a first set of options, said method executed on a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:
 - generating a first log file by executing said program with said first set of options, said first log file including an indication of all functions executed by said program during this first execution, said first log file stored in a computer readable medium;
 - modifying at least one of the first set of options, and then generating a second log file by executing said program with said modified first set of options, said second log file including an indication of all functions executed by said program during this second execution, said second log file stored in a computer readable medium; and
 - comparing said first log file with said second log file to debug the software program.

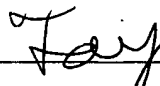
Neither claim 1 nor any of the other of the independent claims contain features regarding building a test script, though the claimed inventions could be used in that manner. In addition, the examiner indicates that the claimed log files are "the results of the compiling" with the options set. However, the examiner is incorrect because the claims contain features regarding working with *executable* files, not files that are being *compiled*.

The correct reasons for why the claims are novel and non-obvious are set forth in the responses to office action already contained in the file.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application

DATE: July 29, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Fay', is written over a horizontal line.

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